

Message Text

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12

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-11 INR-10 LAB-06

NSAE-00 RSC-01 SIL-01 DODE-00 PA-04 USIA-15 PRS-01

SP-03 OC-06 CCO-00 DRC-01 /085 W

----- 089111

R 082341Z MAY 74

FM AMCONSUL NAPLES

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3945

AEMBASSY ROME 836

AMCONSUL PALERMO UNN

AMCONSUL MILAN

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE NAPLES 408

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS; PINS ECON IT

SUBJECT; SITUATION AT EBOLI

REF; NAPLES 389

SUMMARY. BLOCKAGE OF ALL RAIL AND HIGHWAY TRAFFIC BETWEEN NORTH AND MOST OF SOUTH OF ITALY AT EBOLI CONTINUES. BARRICADES THROWN UP SUNDAY IN PROTEST AGAINST UNEXPECTED DECISION OF THE CIPE TO CONSTRUCT FIAT BUS PLANT IN PROVINCE OF AVELLINO RATHER THAN EBOLI HAVE SPREAD TO BATTIPAGLIA AND OTHER SURROUNDING TOWNS. THERE HAS BEEN NO INTERVENTION OF POLICE FORCES TO OPEN UP COMMUNICATION LINES. SITUATION IS STILL TENSE BUT BURNING OF THREE CARS OF

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THE TARANTO-ROME EXPRESS MONDAY EVENING REMAINS ONLY MAJOR ACT OF VIOLENCE. STATEMENTS BY MINMEZZOGIORNO MANCINI, CONFIRMED BY PREMIER RUMOR, THAT THERE IS NO INTENTION TO BYPASS EBOLI AND THAT AN EQUIVALENT INDUSTRIAL ESTABLISHMENT WILL BE CONSTRUCTED IN THE EBOLI AREA SO FAR HAVE NOT RELIEVED THE TRAFFIC BLOCKS. REGIONAL GIUNTA MEETING TODAY IN SALERNO TO ATTEMPT CONVINCE MAYORS OF INVOLVED COMMUNITIES OF GOOD FAITH ON PART OF GOVERNMENT. END SUMMARY.

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1. BLOCKAGE FO ALL RAIL AND ROAD CONNECTIONS BETWEEN NORTH AND

MOST OF SOUTH CONTINUES AT EBOLI FOLLOWING RECENT ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE INTER-MINISTERIAL COUNCIL FOR ECONOMIC PROGRAMMING (CIPE) THAT A LONG AWAITED FIAT PLANT FOR PRODUCTION OF BUSES WOULD BE CONSTRUCTED IN NEIGHBORING PROVINCE OF AVELLINO. ROADBLOCKS PLACED SUNDAY ON THE AUTOSTRADA DEL SOLE, ALL SECONDARY ROADS, AND ALL RAIL LINES HAVE EFFECTIVELY CUT OFF LAND TRANSPORT TO CALABRIA, BASILICATA AND SICILY. YESTERDAY THESE BARRICADES WERE EXTENDED TO SURROUNDING TOWNS OF BATTIPAGLIA, PONTECAGNANO AND OTHERS IN A SHOW OF SOLIDARITY WITH THE COMPLAINTS OF EBOLI. PROTEST APPEARS TO HAVE BEGUN SPONTANEOUSLY AND THERE HAS BEEN LITTLE INDICATION SO FAR THAT IT

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IS BEING KEPT ALIVE OR EXACERBATED BY POLITICAL OR LABOR GROUPS.

2. CAUSE OF THE PROTEST WAS MININDUSTRY CIRIACO DEMITA'S DECISION VIA THE CIPE TO SHIFT A PROJECTED FIAT INVESTMENT OF LIRA 65 BILLION AND APPROXIMATELY 3,500 JOBS TO AVELLINO. MINISTER DEMITA'S BASE IS AVELLINO AND HIS ACTION WAS REGARDED IN EBOLI AND THE PROVINCE OF SALERNO AS POLITICAL AND PERSONAL. PRELIMINARY STATEMENTS BY MINMEZZOGIORNO MANCINI THAT INVESTMENT IN PROVINCE OF AVELLINO WAS NOT INTENDED AS SUBSTITUTE FOR INVESTMENT AT EBOLI NOT GIVEN MUCH CREDENCE.

3. YESTERDAY A DELEGATION OF NATIONAL DEPUTIES FROM PROVINCE OF SALERNO, REPRESENTATIVES OF CAMPANIA REGIONAL GOVERNMENT, AND TRADE UNION REPRESENTATIVES MET WITH PRESIDENT OF COUNCIL OF MINISTERS RUMOR AND OTHER MEMBERS OF THE CABINET. THEY WERE ASSURED THAT EBOLI HAD NOT BEEN OVERLOOKED, THAT THERE HAD BEEN NO FIRM COMMITMENT TO CONSTRUCT THE FIAT BUS PLANT THERE, BUT THAT AN INDUSTRIAL PLANT WITH SIMILAR POSSIBILITIES OF EMPLOYMENT WOULD BE BUILT IN EBOLI AREA.

4. CAMPANIA REGIONAL GOVERNMENT MET THIS MORNING AT SALERNO IN ATTEMPT TO SELL THE NATIONAL GOVERNMENT'S ASSURANCES TO

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MAYORS OF TOWNS INVOLVED IN THE PROTEST AND CALM THE SITUATION. WHILE NEWSPAPER COVERAGE REPORTS THAT GOVERNMENT CLARIFICATIONS HAVE BEEN RECEIVED FAVORABLY BY THE MAYOR OF EBOLI, PARTY OFFICIALS LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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AND LABOR LEADERS OF THE AREA, THOSE MANNING THE BARRICADES, REFLECTING CONTINUED DISTRUST OF GOVERNMENT PROMISES, HAVE SO FAR SHOWN LITTLE INTEREST IN DISMANTLING THE ROAD BLOCKS. HOROWITZ
GDS-80

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: EMPLOYMENT, PUBLIC DEMONSTRATIONS, AUTOMOTIVE INDUSTRY, CONSTRUCTION, FOREIGN INVESTMENTS, INDUSTRIAL PLANTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 08 MAY 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: GarlanWA
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974NAPLES00408
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740112-1155
From: NAPLES
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740565/aaaacfsm.tel
Line Count: 111
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: GarlanWA
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 22 MAY 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <22 MAY 2002 by shawdg>; APPROVED <06 FEB 2003 by GarlanWA>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: SITUATION AT EBOLI
TAGS: PINS, ECON, IT
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005